

"Unemployment and the Way Out"

By "Cannon Fodder"

NO. 4725



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E. K. 197

Rec'd 26.2.81

UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE WAY OUT

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By "CANNON FODDER"

Printed and Published
by
TANK PUBLISHING SERVICE.

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CHAPTER 1

“Let’s Back Up To Get Started”

—“Lanki.”

This chapter is partially introductory, and intended to link up this second number of the “Tank Series” with the first; which appeared during the early part of the “Great War.”

The present condition of unemployment and general world unrest, is attributed by a large number of men, to the events of the Great War.

As a War Veteran I look back to those years, and think of the happenings of that period—We were all stirred as perhaps never before with Patriotic Zeal. Under the influence of that spirit. I sought relief to my own feelings by writing a pamphlet entitled: “THE WAR—A NATIONAL SERVICE POLICY”; which was published as the first of a “TANK SERIES”. In keeping with the present day conventional attitude of mind, of going back to the “WAR” in the discussion of our modern economic problems, and also by way of linking up the two issues of the “Tank Series”, I propose to resurrect this war pam-

phlet, and use from it just a few passages which have a direct bearing on our present discussion.

The author was at that time firmly convinced that the War was the direct result of Germany's aggressive military policy; which was of so ambitious a character as to seek world conquest, and commercial supremacy.

On account of this conviction—which as events proved later was fully vindicated—the pamphlet already referred to was written as an appeal to the sane red-blooded type of Canadians, who were able to look at this great catastrophe in our history, as something which impelled them to give up all, and directly or indirectly to help their native or adopted land in the struggle of the Empire, against those powers which at that time sought to destroy it; and incidentally to preserve such national rights and liberty as we then enjoyed.

Since then, thousands of us have passed through the experience of that great struggle, by serving in the ranks of the "Fighting Forces." — — —

Back again in the routine of "Civvy" affairs, we have realized perhaps more than ever, the fierce activities of commercial and industrial life, and the in-

tense struggle for existence amongst the working class.

"Yes, now the war is over; but those back in "Civvy" life
Now realize that still it is a struggle for their life.—
They do not fight in trenches; nor do hear the cannons roar,
Their struggle now is with a wolf. The trench is their front
door."—From "Still Carrying On," by W. A.

What else then more natural, than that one should once more get the old "Tank" moving in order to help to alleviate if possible, the sufferings of those who struggle to keep body and soul together, and at the same time strive to keep up a semblance of respectability.

Men fought in those days to end War; and to secure not only a Peace in which armaments would be cast aside, but also an Economic Peace, which would enable men to live in a state of Economic Security. The following two quotations from the article "War. A Sketch" printed in the first "Tank" series, show not only the views and war ideals of the author held at that time, but also those of most high minded men who seriously considered the general situation during that war period.

"The optimist looks forward and sees a new world:—a brighter world. Men in the trenches, he

tells us, are thinking seriously. When the war is over, they will be awake to their own interests, and to the interests of their respective nations.

He tells us that there will be after the war a new democracy; that men will no longer take a mess of pottage for their birthright; that there will be as a result of this serious thinking in the trenches, a demand for universal brotherhood."

One more quotation from the same article:

"The war is for something worth while. It is being fought in the interests of humanity. This war before it is finished, may shatter the very foundations of our civilization. It cannot however destroy the sun's rays. It cannot stop the winds from shaking the tree tops. The earth will be as productive as ever. — Wake up! Have clear minds unfettered with the tawdy details of our delicately constructed civilization. What is gold? What are bonds? What is that which we call wealth and capital? What though the money 'changes of the world collapse, and gold is no longer the standard of value. What though bonds and paper representations of wealth, stock certificates and title deeds, carry no value more than the paper itself? What then? The war may bring about all this; and yet we would have left the good things of earth. We would have left the great ideals which exist in every human mind to a more or less degree.

Briefly, we would have left the true metal, and the dross would be buried with our past civilization."

The third and last link I wish to make between the two issues does not concern anything contained

in the last issue of "The Tank"; but views of the author expressed in France, showing his mental attitude towards conditions then, and as he visionized them in the future. My readers will pardon this personal reference. It is made only with the object of showing to some extent the views held at that time by the "Private Tommy Atkins" in the trenches.

His Battalion was at rest after the events of Passchendale, in the village of Houdain. It was near Christmas, and the occasion was a banquet in celebration of the festive season, arranged for the enjoyment of the troops before going in the line on the **LENS FRONT**.

It was his privilege and duty to reply to a toast on "CANADA"; and in keeping with the spirit in which he had left his adopted land, he made while replying to the toast, the following remarks.

"Are we fighting, gentlemen, to protect the exploiters and plunderers of Canada with their little world of obedient satellites? Surely not. When we get home we shall say to these buccaneers who toil not neither do they fight. Hands off! Never mind what concessions you hold. We shall demand that the wealth of Canada's natural resources, shall belong to the people of Canada. The lives lost already,

are worth more in value than all the natural wealth of the British Empire.

We have paid already and paid dearly, for the natural wealth of our native or adopted land."

This was the way some of us felt over there, when we heard tales of profiteering and graft.

Another "Tank" series is now "Going Over the Top." The enemy, whether he be a profiteer, or an exploiter of the country's natural wealth, or its people, or merely a man with a twisted vision waving a red flag, is going to be fired at. (Only through the medium of the press of course.)

This new "Tank" series is "Going Over the Top" to do its share in preventing poverty and discontent occupying Canadian Territory, also with the object of doing its share in making Canada a country fit for working folk to live in, where commerce and industry shall be based on a high standard of ethics, being carried on for the benefit of all engaged in them, and the nation as a whole.

As a ~~was~~ veteran with a grievance, I cannot avoid perhaps, an aggressive spirit in the discussion of topics such as this.



I only hope that the aggressive spirit of the
"TANK" will promote progressive thought in the
minds of its readers.



CHAPTER 2.

Unemployment, An Established Fact.

A Child of Capitalism.—Now grown big enough to be noticed and recognized as one of the economic family of Nations.
Still growing and inclined to be big like its father.

Undoubtedly the all-important subject of the moment is the Problem of Unemployment.

So important is it, that the big political parties in Canada, made no serious reference to it, until they went to the people for their votes.

One party woke up to the fact a week before the election date, that evidently there was some unemployment, while the other party realizing it a little earlier, set out to promise anything almost, short of "Kingdom Come", to wipe out "**THE SPECTRE.**"

Unfortunately, that which most concerns their feeble sense of political responsibility, is that fifty year old red herring of Party Politics, the Fiscal Policy. (Read King and Bennett speeches.)

In thinking of unemployment, one can understand to some extent, a country like England, with



an area little more than that of Lake Superior, and a population approaching fifty millions, not being able to adequately support its people; but when one thinks of Canada, with its millions of acres of fertile land, its vast rivers and lakes teeming with fish, its great mineral resources, its enormous areas of valuable timber, and only a paltry nine million people; yet having a percentage of unemployment equal almost to any of the war stricken countries of Europe; one is bound to regard such a condition, as an unpardonable disgrace. A disgrace which falls equally upon the people and their rulers.

There is no need to discuss details in order to show the enormous amount of unemployment in Canada at the present moment.

The thousands of war veterans in every Province, the tens of thousands of labourers and craftsmen of every kind, and the thousands of clerks and office workers of both sexes, all unemployed, is evidence irrefutable to any intelligent and observing person, of a serious unemployment problem in our midst.

It is not my purpose to appeal to the sympathy of my readers, by citing tales of want and woe concerning the lives of thousands of unfortunates, from coast to coast in this land of plenty.

Letters appearing from time to time in the public press, and occasional outbursts from scattered pulpits, bring home very forcibly to the minds of some of us, that a great deal of Christian charity is needed, to even alleviate the suffering of those mentioned through these agencies.

The bulk of the suffering however caused by unemployment, is unexpressed, and indeed unknown.

It is the suffering and heart rendings of those who do not register, who are too "respectable" to beg, and too proud to admit defeat.

May be these folks have no right to let their "respectability" and pride stand in the way of their participating in the gifts of food, clothing, and cash, doled out by a charitable and paternal government, or by the various religious organizations. That's their business.

Perhaps the contempt which some of us unemployed returned men have for charity offered to our kind is not merited. That's our business. There's a reason. We want what we fought for: the chance to live without being dependent on the other fellow's charity.



Charity of this kind, may bless him that gives, but is cursed by him to whom it is offered.

Let us now turn to the activities of the world's leaders, and examine their attempts to solve this great problem of unemployment.

As one looks back and reviews the many attempts made by leaders of nations during the years since Armistice to solve the unemployment problem, one is particularly impressed by the futility of their efforts in that direction.

Let us consider for a short time these futile attempts of our great political and industrial leaders to solve this apparent problem of problems.

We will go back first of all to the early post war years. Mr. Hoover, then I believe food administrator for the United States, speaking at that time upon unemployment as it existed there, and upon the condition of American Industry generally, said:—

“The destructive effect of the violent fluctuations on the foreign exchanges, was the first obstruction to American foreign trade, and incidentally the first cause of unemployment in the United States.”

What do we learn from this statement? Simply

this: that the United States with practically a strangle hold on the Gold supply of the world, had absolutely no control whatever over the violent fluctuations of the foreign exchanges, although these fluctuations were acting adversely to, and effecting seriously the trade of the United States.

The Manchester Chamber of Commerce also at that time, expressed the opinion that unemployment was the result of the condition of the foreign exchanges; and in consideration of this, passed a resolution, urging upon the Government, the expediency of endeavouring to arrange for the cancellation wholly or in part, of the inter-allied indebtedness arising from the war, as one of the most practical steps towards improving the foreign exchanges, and thereby preventing trade stagnation and unemployment.

Here is an example of a great institution of commerce and trade so utterly at sea as far as solving the unemployment problem is concerned, that it appealed to the British Government, to experiment by such a costly method as freeing the indebtedness of its debtors, and plunging the country into near bankruptcy.

Lloyd George during that same period, made the

statement, "That the cause of unemployment was the War."

This is a statement made frequently by many of our leaders; but can the statement be proven?. Are we to assume from this, that unemployment is solved by Peace? If so, God speed the Peace conferences of nations to bring about quickly the millineum.

We must remember however, that unemployment was world-wide just previous to the war, and was one factor which probably contributed perhaps indirectly, to the bringing about of the War.

The War while it lasted, kept millions busy who to day are idle.

The War was the economic salvation of millions, who were idle when it began.

Many remedies have been proposed by men of various types; Philanthropists, Bolsheviks, Ecclesiastics, Politicians, Socialists, and Labour Leaders:— All put forward as were the lice powders in France to destroy the pest, and give peace and contentment to the sufferer. and all equally fallacious in result.

The lice powders instead of destroying the pest,

produced big fat lies, which apparently fared well on the poison: while the many schemes put forward as sure solutions to the unemployment problem, would fatten in many instances, a privileged class at the expense of the rest.

The *Tory Protectionist* has given his remedy for unemployment, the creating of a high protective tariff.

The *Liberal Free Trader* has given us the gospel of Free Trade, as the solution to the problem.

The *Industrialist* has his remedy. Produce! Produce! PRODUCE! He claims that men cannot earn the high wages they are getting, and that high wages and short hours of labour are the cause of unemployment, and general trade depression.

Reduce wages, lengthen the working hours, and he would have us believe, the problem would be solved.

Conferences have been held frequently, all over the world, during these post war years, and the greatest minds of the age directed towards the finding of a solution to this problem of unemployment.

As one scans the Daily Press however, and reads the reports of these conferences, one is impressed with the fact, that so far, no schemes have been submitted beyond borrowing money from the banks, for the purpose of carrying out projects concerned with Public Works, such as the building of bridges, public institutions, and workmen's homes; the draining of swamp lands, the making of roads, docks, and harbours, and attending to the work of reafforestation etc.

Unfortunately, these proposed constructional projects, are based on a wrong system of finance, and if carried out as suggested, would prove an evil instead of a blessing, by mortgaging the efforts of generations yet unborn.

Under proper financing, the result would be different, and possibly the desired object might be gained. This will be discussed later.

Some leaders claim that the solution lies with municipal and city councils, dealing with local conditions by providing work, and generally boosting trade in their respective districts.

City councils and municipal bodies, have in many instances dealt with local conditions in a more or less

satisfactory manner.

This method has proven however, as one not to be commended, because it falls far short of dealing adequately with even local conditions.

I contend that the unemployment problem in its most limited aspect is national; and cannot therefore be dealt with, by anything less than a national policy.

Indeed as one looks at the problem from every side, one feels tempted to go further by making the contention, that unemployment is an international problem, and can only be properly dealt with, by an international policy.

In making this brief retrospect of many futile attempts by great leaders and organizations, to solve the problem of unemployment, does not the case appear to be indeed hopeless?

The difficulty of providing employment is enhanced, when we take still another aspect of our subject.

In any attempt to arrive at a solution of this great problem, one has to take into consideration also, the question of a living wage.

The solution of the unemployment problem becomes extremely difficult, when it is a matter of finding work, for the needs of all, which shall be sufficiently remunerative, as to cover the usual expenses incurred, by the present standard of living.

It would be foolish to suggest any remedy for unemployment, which would merely keep men and their families from starvation.

The workers rightly or wrongly, with even adverse industrial conditions against them, refuse absolutely to return to pre-war wages and pre-war hours of labour.

Any solution presented, which would lower the standard of wage and hour conditions to any extent, would be unacceptable to the workers, and would not be considered by them, as a solution to this great problem of our present discussion.

This problem is only worth while discussing, in so far that a real remedy, not a patching-up process is sought, for its solution.

We all know the condition of affairs caused by unemployment. What we want is a remedy.

Nothing is more sure than this, and I want my readers to twice read and inwardly digest this statement, that if a remedy is not found, and put into force within a reasonable length of time, there will be War. A war in which the ghastliness of the "Great War," will be by comparison only a picnic.

I do not necessarily mean civil war, or revolution. The likelihood is that it will be war again among the civilized nations of the world, in spite of the much heralded but really feeble attempt now being made to prevent it.

What then is the remedy?

Before a doctor can apply a remedy to his patient, he must first of all make a proper diagnosis of his case.

So in this discussion of unemployment:—Before any remedy can be suggested, it will be proper first of all to find out the cause of unemployment, and the conditions which make it possible.



CHAPTER 3.

Our Beautiful Economic System.

Requires fewer and fewer people to carry it on, therefore more and more people are unable to earn a living from it.

No one will deny that unemployment is due to economic conditions which at present prevail, and under which we live move and have our being.

In other words, Unemployment is due to our Present Economic System.

What is meant by the term Economic System?

I submit, that by Economic System is meant, the system whereby production and distribution of wealth, by the efforts of human industry is carried on, and under which that wealth is made to possess an interchangeable value.

Secondly, that it is a system of conduct and legislation founded to some extent at all events, on scientific law and government.

Now let us examine our Present Economic System. Let us consider some of the chief elements

in it, which concern production, distribution, the creating of values, its conduct, and its legislation.

First of all it is a system of Capitalism.

It is a system which, out of the vital needs of the human race, creates a few millionaires, and leaves actual producers on the verge of starvation.

It is a system of international financial and business organization, which mars by its touch, every phase of human effort, and which places slave shackles on the great majority of the human race.

It is a system which enables profiteers, land-grabbers, and plunderers, to seize the natural resources of the world, to lay claim to large tracts of valuable property, to have ownership and control of the means of transportation, to ride a cock-horse on the backs of the people, and lash them as they do so.

It is a system which allows railways to be built out of public funds and public wealth, in the form of subsidy, and which gives ownership and control of these railways to railway magnates, who in turn, show their appreciation of the people's charitable foolishness, by making them pay perpetual compound interest, dividends and profit, on the labour cost or value of their own productions and enterprises.

This system is a social fungus, spread out over the surface of the civilized world, by the controllers of industry, in order to enslave those engaged in it, and rob them of the fruits of their labours.

This system has plunged the world into debt.

The gold available for world currency (the only money recognized by the way in final payment of debt) is limited to less than \$4000,000,000, while the world's debts, aggregate more than \$1,500,000,000,000. Note in these figures, the huge indebtedness of humanity, to the money lending class, peculiar to our Present Capitalistic System.

Let us consider also in connection with these figures, that the borrower is always the servant to the lender; that from the origin of barbarian tribes, down to the present time, debt has been the chain, forged by self constituted leaders, to shackle and enslave industry, in order to filch its profits; and also that corporate and private debt, is the chief cause of our social and industrial evils.

Our Present Economic System is one which stirs up strife and discord, between one nation against another, and one combination of nations against another combination of nations.

It is a system under which men have from time immemorial, had to make a life long struggle, to keep body and soul together, and have at times been compelled to make a bloody struggle with their fellow men, to preserve their lives and homes.

It is a system which can commandeer life in time of war, but which can only borrow wealth, and that from the pawnbroking uncles of finance, which loans must be paid back with topping interest, out of the toil and sweat of the workers.

It is a system which corrupts our courts and legislatures, and which puts out at all times vicious news and lying propaganda.

Now we note in this year 1930, that this great Capitalistic Economic System, has by a process of gradual growth throughout the ages, become so enmeshed in every human enterprise, that our politicians, our statesmen, and some of the most brilliant minds in the world, seem unable to solve any of the problems concerning industrial and social life because of it.

They are only able apparently to use this great system to further their own aims and ambitions.

It is very evident then, that we have in our Present Economic System, a huge Frankenstein, which man in the course of his evolutionary process has created. A machine run by concrete selfishness as its motive power.

A great Juggernaut, which crushes in its progress all mankind.

As one views the whole problem of Unemployment in the knowledge of our economic system, one realizes fully, the utter impossibility of ever reaching a solution, until this great machine is thrown out of gear, and so irretrievably wrecked, that it will be placed on the scrap heap as out of date, unable further to fulfill the needs of a more progressive age.

No economic system is right or workable, which is unable to engage all men in the work of the world; even though this wide distribution would only mean one hour per day per man. This means of course that no economic system is right or workable, which allows some men to be engaged eight hours or more a day in continuous employment, while others, equally good in character and ability, must needs go round day after day like starved wolves, looking for the means of sustenance.

The wealth of the world is produced by a com-

The introduction of machinery into every phase of human endeavour, has lessened tremendously during the last few years, the necessity for man power.

The situation at the present time is, that the needs of the world for luxuries and necessities, cannot begin to keep more than a small minority of the workers going what we term "full time".

The situation in the near future, with even what may be considered "boom times", is not likely to change. The big chances are, that even less men will be needed, to meet the demands of even a greater population. In the matter of great inventions, engineering skill, scientific methods of manufacture, aided by the wonderful results of chemical research, we are advancing at a tremendous rate.

The result is, that the Present Economic System, cannot meet the exigencies of this period, and is totally inadequate, to fulfill the purpose for which an economic system is designed.

Our Economic System was developed in an age of Scarcity.

The whole history of man until comparatively recent times, tells of scarcity.

Adam we are told, was turned out of the Garden of Eden, a paradise of beauty, into a world where he had to wrestle with the forces of nature, and even earn his bread by the sweat of his brow.

Right through the ages, man has had to struggle with the forces of nature, to protect himself, to feed himself, and to clothe himself.

No generation of men left sufficient surplus to supply the following generation.

Each generation throughout the ages, has had to provide for itself, with the same intense struggle. "Man worked from the rising to the setting of the sun, and woman's work was never done," according to the old adage.

"He that does not work, cannot eat." "Take care of the pennies, the pounds will take care of themselves." Waste not. Want not." All proverbs of an Age of scarcity.

Sir. Auckland Geddes while occupying the post of British Ambassador to the United States, and looking to America as the source of future hope said:

"In Europe, we know that an age is dying. A

realization of the aimlessness of live, lived to labour and to die, having achieved nothing, but avoided starvation, and of the birth of children, also doomed to the weary treadmill, had seized the minds of millions."

Most of my readers, and apparently all of our leaders, who are applying their minds to the solution of the unemployment problem, are thinking only of providing work, for the unemployed, which shall be sufficiently remunerative, to provide for their immediate needs.

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CHAPTER 4.

"This Age of Plenty."

Does it mean bigger and better wars or life abundant for all?

From now on I want you my readers to forget work, in the sense and to the extent, that you have always deemed necessary.

Two thirds of the world's man power can be dispensed with anyhow, and then we can maintain a higher standard of living the world over, than the boasted high standard of the United States of America to-day.

At this juncture let me recall the quotation already made, from the article "The War. A Sketch."

"Wake up! Have clear minds unfettered by the tawdry details of our delicately constructed civilization." Wake up readers and listen! We are living for the first time in human history in an AGE OF PLENTY.

The only scarcity that remains is an artificial scarcity. Man has by science, engineering skill, and chemical research, so far conquered the forces of nat-

ure, that real scarcity which has been with mankind throughout the ages, is now banished from the world.

We are living to-day in an AGE OF PLENTY.—Nobody seems to cheer!—No bells are ringing in this New Age. No flags are flying to welcome it. Nobody can deny however the truth of the statement that it is here.

All around us there are evidences of it. We see the enormous wealth that human beings have produced, and also realize the enormous potential wealth, which the pressing of a button or the pulling of a lever can produce in the twinkling of an eye.

With these agencies at our command we can produce at will, quickly, everything we require to supply all our needs, even in this wonderful age.

The wealth and producing power of even all the recently war stricken countries of Europe, is to-day, after the years of intense warfare, fifty per cent. greater than previous to the War.

In England during the War, when five millions of the country's best workers, were taken from normal industry and from the land, the output rose three hundred per cent.

In some cases to-day, the production rate of man hour, is ten thousand per cent. greater than it was one hundred and thirty years ago.

One could go further in this direction, and take the space of a large volume, merely citing instances of the tremendous producing power of man to-day, by the use of the aforementioned agencies.

I repeat that there are evidences of enormous wealth, real and potential, and that we are living in an AGE OF PLENTY.

The only reason we do not welcome it is, that on account of having lived so long, under an economic system based on scarcity, our hearts, our minds, our brains, are so subordinate to that system, that we unconsciously raise a barrier of artificial scarcity, which prevents us from enjoying the fruits of the struggle of the masses throughout the ages:—the bountifulness of all the good things of earth, which are our inheritance.

When we remove this barrier, we shall work and live: not work to live.

Drive out of your minds my readers the prejudices born of a real scarcity, by analyzing the facts,

concerned with this Age of Real and Potential plenty.

Get the right slant of conditions around you.

When one contemplates upon the mental attitude displayed by the masses and some leaders, which creates this barrier of artificial scarcity, thereby keeping men from enjoying the fruits of plenty, one realizes to the full that "Ye Must Be Born Again" can be readily applied in this case.

It seems as though a mental rebirth is needed, to give vision to observe the bounteous blessings within our reach, and to give us wisdom to grasp them.

Let us try and get the mental attitude towards this Age of Plenty in which we live, and find out that which prevents us from enjoying to the full, the bountiful blessings which surround us.

* * *

CHAPTER 5.

The Economic Fog Bank (^{In which Party Politicians are lost.})

"We are at the crossroads, and nobody knows the way out."

—H. G. Wells.

"The future is very dark. We have reached the twilight of civilization."—Dr. Brailsford.

"I am the light.—I came that man might have life and have it abundantly."—Jesus Christ.

I presume that you, my readers, will be prepared to readily admit the following:—

First—That man has a desire and a right to live.

Second—That the standard of living should be such that man as a whole, not as an individual, has made possible by his conquest of the forces of nature throughout the ages, by his engineering skill, scientific achievements, and chemical research.

Third—That having made possible a World of Plenty, it is his right to enjoy to the full, this bountiful supply.

Fourth—That there is a dread something, almost unexplainable, which prevents men from enjoying in absolute security, the blessings of earth, and even life itself.

What is this dread something? Are you prepared to follow it to its lair? Are you prepared to help to destroy it? We shall see.

It is of course impossible within the limitations of a small book such as this, to follow in very great detail all points concerned with the subject, to a logical conclusion; because the subject is too broad and too deep: embracing as it does, all the mental and physical activities of human existence.

At this juncture, I submit that in this particular age, man depends almost entirely upon Industry, for his supply of mental and physical requirements.

Indeed the real purpose and object of Industry, is to produce and distribute, with the minimum of Man-work and Machine-work, the desired quantity, and the desired kind of goods and services, needed by man, as and where and when required.

It is obvious therefore, that if man is prevented as he is to-day, through no fault of his own, from getting the things he needs and requires, that there is something radically wrong with Industry, and it is not fulfilling the objects and purposes for which it was designed.

When we find out what is wrong with it, we shall

incidentally discover the evil which is responsible, for all the human misery we attribute to unemployment.

We shall now proceed to find out what is wrong with this great institution, upon which depends our very existence.

Let us first of all break up Industry into its component parts. We find in doing so, that there are four relevant factors, which may be termed as follows:—

- 1.—The Desire to Consume.
- 2.—Machine-work.
- 3.—Man-work.
- 4.—Finance.

If there is anything wrong with Industry, it is in one of these factors.

The evil force therefore which prevents men from enjoying this Age of Plenty, is in one of these. For this reason, let us examine them carefully, and find out the one in which it is contained.

First: The Desire to Consume.—People in this country and in all countries the world over, want things to eat and to wear. They want homes, furni-

ture, books, bikes, golf sticks, radios, cars, phones, educational advantages, medical service, and all kinds of things to make life livable and enjoyable.

REAL DEMAND EXISTS for everything worth while, in a proper way, that can be produced, and for professional service which can be rendered, to benefit mind or body.

REAL DEMAND is the only reason for the existence of Industry. If nobody wanted goods and services there would be no object in producing and distributing them.

Our first factor then is sound enough, and contains no evil. The basic object of Industry is functioning all right: indeed almost perfectly. Let us therefore now proceed to examine the second factor, Machine work.

As already pointed out, the machine can very easily supply almost every demand mentioned in the first factor.

It can bring the raw material from its source, and produce the articles of necessity and luxury, quickly and in abundance; so abundantly indeed, that Sabotage under our Present Economic System, has become

a necessity; and considered by the Governments of the world, a virtue instead of a vice.

A veritable flood of the good things of life is off-times directed into channels of waste, to save reaching the masses of the people who need them.

The growth of necessities is frequently restricted, and further inventions shelved, all to prevent men—you and I and all of us, from getting the things we want.

Our second factor is evidently a sound part of Industry. It is vigorous; it produces in abundance. Incidentally it also relieves man of a great deal of drudgery and toil.

It carries out its part towards attaining the objects and purposes of Industry.

Now our third factor Man-work.

The machine has of course to be worked by man. He invents it. He designs it. He builds it, administers it, improves it, feeds it with the results of chemical research, and when it breaks down, he repairs it.

The question now is:—Are there sufficient men

to do all this work? The only answer is, The Present Unemployment Situation. There are millions to spare.

It is obvious then, that the desire on the part of men to consume, can be satisfied easily by Machine and Man Power; and that the object and purpose of Industry, to produce and distribute goods and service to mankind, is not baulked by the factors already examined.

The evil then must be in the fourth factor; that of FINANCE as the only remaining factor not examined.

Finance is a big broad intricate subject. I propose therefore, to discuss it only in sufficient detail as may be necessary to clear the issue, in regard to its bearing on Industry, and incidentally of course its bearing upon the Unemployment Problem.

We will get down therefore to "brass tacks," so that although he who runs may not read, at any rate he who reads will understand.

FINANCE in the link between Consumption, or (The Desire to Consume,) and PRODUCTION by (Machine-work or Man-work.) This is the function

of Finance: to link up these relevant factors already dealt with.

The only way by which Consumption and Production may be linked properly together, is by a system of Finance which is based on a Consideration of the full extent of these two factors, and makes proper provision for one hundred per cent exchange; or, in other words:—

Money must be issued in fixed proportion to the amount of goods and services produced and wanted.

If this is not accomplished our factor Finance is the one which baulks Industry and is the cause of our present world depression and suffering.

The substance through which Finance functions is money.

Any child knows this. It knows that when it "Desires to Consume" a bag of candy, or an ice-cream cone, (Production) that it needs a certain sum of money, to lay claim to these products.

Money may be anything which has a recognized value as a medium of exchange.

It may be gold, or silver, or any other metal or

substance. It may be only paper. Money however is not wealth. It is only a commodity used to lay claim to a given amount of wealth: or in other words, to lay claim to something produced, either by the application of work to raw material, or to work alone in the form of service.

Money has no value, beyond that which is recognized, by organizations of men.

It would be impossible of course in our present state of civilization, to discuss Finance—functioning as it does through the substance of money—without making mention of Banks, and the intricate process of their workings. In order therefore to examine Finance fully, and find in it the evil which baulks Modern Industry we will turn our attention now to Banks and Bankers.



CHAPTER 6.

"Banks, Bankers and We Petty Men."

Bankers! "Bestrade the narrow world—like a colossus; and we petty men, walk under its huge legs and peep around to find our selves dishonorable graves."—As Cassius said to Caesar."

—Shakespeare.

I do not propose to discuss the business of Banking to any great length—just sufficient brief mention as to help elucidate the subject of Finance as a system of money.

Obviously, the best example we can take for this purpose is the Bank of England, and its banking system.

It is older perhaps than all others, so that by glancing over the history and methods of this institution, we shall get very close to the source of the Banking System, and be able to observe the progress made, from its inception to the present period.

First of all the Bank of England is a private institution.

It was founded in 1694, and came into existence for the purpose of lending William III, the sum of

one million two hundred thousand pounds, at eight per cent. interest.

It received the gold deposits of the merchants of that period, and issued paper money on a large scale, against the gold in its possession.

Since then, right through the centuries, it has had a gradual growth in power and privileges, granted by various acts of parliament, from time to time.

Its notes, for instance, as far back as 1844, were, by an Act known as the Bank Charter Act, made legal tender, without the necessity of having a backing of gold, until they exceeded fourteen million pounds.

Later, this privilege was further extended, so that the Bank of England issue—"Fiduciary" or "Confidence" issue, or in other words notes without a metallic backing reached the amount of £19,750,000. Only above this amount, does the Bank need to have coin, or bullion in its vaults.

There is no need to discuss fully the methods and activities of the Bank, through the centuries from the time of its inception to the present period.

Sufficient for our immediate purpose is this—that

the principle of issuing paper against its gold reserve, is the principle in vogue to-day, only to a much greater degree.

This system carried on through the centuries by the Bank of England, has become the system of all other banks, which have sprung up within comparatively recent times.

They issue paper far in excess of their gold reserve, although of course in legal proportion to it. This principle holds good, so long as people are content to handle paper instead of gold; and until something very unexpected happens.

Something did happen in 1914—The War—The Bank of England found almost at the commencement of this great catastrophe, that it could not pay 10 per cent of its liabilities in gold.

It was only saved from absolute bankruptcy, by closing its doors, and calling in the help of the Government. The Government declared a moratorium, and arranged for a new kind of paper called Treasury Notes, to meet the exigencies of that period.

These notes were not backed however, by an additional supply of gold—The Gold Standard was in-

sufficient to any longer serve the purpose of financing.

The system of Financing on a Gold Standard, fell down completely under the crucial test of war. A new system therefore had to be introduced, which would function under any test placed upon it.

As already mentioned, Treasury Notes were issued by the Government, to save the Bank and the Banking Business. Now what think you, was made to back these Treasury Notes? As already stated, not gold; not silver; nor yet any other material substance such as diamonds or precious stones.

The backing of these Treasury Notes was something abstract, but far more real and potential—the NATIONAL REAL CREDIT.

These Treasury Notes were backed by something far more sound than gold, or silver, or diamonds, or precious stones.

They were backed by a Nation's Power, its Will, its Resources, its Life.—The Will to Fight and Produce.—By a Nation's Factories—its Genius—its Fertile Lands—its Efficiency, in a hundred different ways. Its splendid Harbours, and perhaps above all its reputation for paying its debts.

There was also the splendid WAR SPIRIT, and the Morale of its Soldiers.

Had even the spirit of its soldiers drooped at this period, the National Real Credit which backed those Treasury Notes, would have sunk so low as to have rendered them worthless.

What would have happened then? Think it over —that's another story.

After this kind paternal action on the part of the Government towards the Bank, a statement was issued by the Government, assuring the people of the Bank's soundness.

Mark this please.—A private institution made sound by the backing of all that the Nation was really worth, its NATIONAL REAL CREDIT.

The Bank then on the strength of this New Credit, issued Notes, and was saved.

It was washed in the blood of that shorn lamb—the British People—and was saved.

The people were the Saviours of the Bank, and incidentally the Saviours of the Banking System, as applied to all Banks in the civilized world.

Something else happened immediately after this:—the Government went to the Bank, (cap in hand I presume in true conventional borrower fashion), and requested a loan.

Can you believe it?—A loan from its own deposits, upon which it was prepared to pay interest, to these pawn-broking uncles of Finance—the Bank Officials. Note this also, that since the War, these Bank Officials to suit the purposes of Finance, have reverted their transactions to the principle of the Gold Standard; and the people of Britain, are now taxed to the tune of £300,000,000 per year, to repay this unjust indebtedness.

I have taken the Bank of England as our example, because it is the oldest and perhaps the most conservative of Banking Institutions.

She is dubbed the "Old Lady of Threadneedle Street."

It is safe to assume therefore, that a brief retrospect of the history and financial methods of other banks, less conservative in their policy, would not yield anything more favourable, concerning the methods of the Banking System.

Our own banks here in Canada, are based on the

same system and function in exactly the same manner.

The money which they put into circulation, while regulated by gold deposits, since the reversion to the Gold Standard, is still backed wholly and solely, by our National Real Credit.

Our banks on the strength of the National Real Credit, possess the privilege of **CREATING** money, and the power of regulating its circulation.

The extent of the power thus given to banks, is almost incalculable.

It is at once obvious, that this power can be used to dictate to Industry, Agriculture, and even the Government.

Before I go further, I want the fact engraved deeply in your minds, that money to-day, although again regulated by the Gold Standard, is based on **NATIONAL REAL CREDIT**—not Gold—because compared with the paper issues of Financial Credit, all the gold in the world is but small change.

Ponder this over awhile, and you will realize that money is merely an artificial costless product of ink

and paper; a mere BANKER'S COMMODITY.

The only reason for the return to the Gold Standard, was to give the Bankers power over the circulation of money.

By a monopoly of gold, they incidentally gained power over Industry, Polities, and everything pertaining to human activities.

All bank privileges granted by various Bank Acts, throughout the last two or three centuries, were based on the Gold Standard:—without the Gold Standard, these privileges, with the power invested in them would be gone: and Bankers no longer would be enthroned as dictators of world affairs.



CHAPTER 7.

The Bankers' Power.

"The Bank gave, and the bank has taken away. Awful—be the name of the bank."

Remember we are looking in our factor Finance, for the evil which prevents men from enjoying the blessings of a World of Plenty, made such largely by Machine Power.

At this juncture, let us have a proper understanding as to the meaning of Finance.

Finance as already stated is a system of money, the purpose of which is to link up consumption with production.

There is however, another aspect of Finance, which we must take cognizance of; it is Finance as the science of Public Revenue and Expenditure; and the Financier as one skilled in the intricacies of Finance.

There is also "HIGH FINANCE", which is international in its dealings; and the big Financiers, who control through High Finance, the destinies of

nations. All these aspects of Finance come under the meaning of Finance as expressed in our fourth factor.

So far we have examined Finance as a system of money. While in this connection, we may have noted much evil in our fourth factor, which we are convinced accounts for a great deal of suffering of humanity at the present time—we will not discuss this for the moment, but continue our examination of Finance, taking another aspect of it.

In our brief examination of Finance as a system of money, we noted the power which Financiers who control money, incidentally gain by its control, over Industry, Polities, and everything pertaining to human activity.

Let us now examine this aspect of Finance—its power. The late President Wilson (who had unusual opportunities to observe the power of Finance)—in laying stress on its secrecy and power said:—

“Some of the biggest men in the United States, in the field of commerce and manufacture, are afraid of something or somebody.—They know there is a power somewhere, so organized, so subtle, so watchful, so interlocked, so complete, so pervasive, that

they had better not speak above their breath, when they speak in condemnation of it."

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In his book "The New Freedom," the late President becomes more explicit. He says:—

"We have been dreading all along, the time when the combined power of High Finance, would be greater than the power of Government." Have we come to a time, when the President of the United States—or any other man who wishes to become President, must doff his cap in the presence of High Finance, and say "You are our inevitable master—but we will see how we can make the best of it."

I have already stated, that Financial Organization under our Present Economic System, is international; that it mars by its touch, every phase of human effort, and places slave shackles on the great majority of the human race.

High Finance, knows no international boundaries; it roams at will over all the world—it needs no visa to enter any country, to carry on its business, it can defy Governments and electorates.

Let us dwell for a little time on proof of this. In 1915—The Bulletin of the National City Company

contained the following under the headline: "Are We Governed by Foreign Bankers?"

"The 'Belgian Right Press', violently criticised all those concerned in the Belgian Loan negotiations with the United States, for their action, which has just been revealed, in promising to effect a reduction of 150,000,000 francs in the budget."

"'If it were', so said M. Japon, 'the only conclusion to be drawn was, that Belgium was under the rule of American and British Financiers, who were able to dictate their conditions'."

"M. Vandorvelde replied: 'that the facts were substantially correct; although the figure was not stated.—The Government must submit to the demands of foreign Capitalists, in order to obtain the stabilization of the Franc'."

Mr. G. K. Chesterton recently stated: "The main mark of Modern Government is, that we do not know who governs, *de facto*, any more than we do *de jure*. We see the politician and not his backer; still less the hacker of the backer; or what is most important of all, the Banker of the Backer."

Throned above us all in a manner without parallel in the past, is the veiled Prophet of Finance, swaying all men's lives by a sort of magic, and delivering oracles in a language not understood by the people.

Mr. Thomas, the minister in the British Cabinet whose job it was some time ago to solve the unemployment problem in England, made a speech in the early part of this year, and in that speech, while admitting his ability to solve the problem, offered some positive proposals.

His positive proposals were, for the Bankers to approve schemes of reorganization and rationalization, and to finance these on their own terms.

He made particular mention, while discussing these proposals with his audience, of the integrity of the Governor of the Bank of England, and also of the fact, that this gentleman was steering the country through its present period.

When a minister of the Crown, admits that the head of a private banking institution is running the country, one wonders naturally, why the Labour Party there does not abdicate, and hand over to the representatives of finance the Crown and the Keys of the Tower of London.

In his futile attempts to solve the unemployment problem, Mr. Thomas has handed over Industry, lock, stock and barrel to Finance; so that now in England, Industry is absolutely owned and controlled by Finance.

In view of the failure of the British Labour Party to solve the unemployment problem, and of their having played into the hands of Finance in the way here shown, perhaps the words of Mr. Henry Ford as given in the Commercial and Financial Chronicle May 22nd, 1926, may have in them an element of truth.

Mr. Ford said: "The British Strike was put over; But British Labour does not know it.—It was jock-eyed by the people who are always putting things over—the same people, who put over wars.—If I named them, you would not publish it."

McDonald, Snowden, Thomas, the leaders of the Labour Party—good men all of them—were thus made apparently the tools of Finance.

No wonder Phillip Snowden was banqueted by the bankers of London. No wonder he fought for British Financial Interests at the late conference of nations, and was lauded to the skies by the Capitalistic or Bankers' Press. Now their party has been so beaten by Finance that—to use Mr. Thomas's own words—"Finance is now steering the country."

Finance, that great Octopus which it has proved to be, is at the steering wheel, in full control of the

Ship of State, while the Labour Party carries on with the menial tasks below deck.

Yet—to use the words of Shakespeare—"They are honourable men, all honourable men." They meant well. They were seriously trying to alleviate the distress and suffering of the class they represent, but they came up against Finance. The demon praised their efforts, banqueted them, and then swallowed them.

Now they are part of the present Great FINANCIAL Economic System.

One more example to show the power of this great demon Finance.

Mr. Lloyd George immediately after a reparations conference commented thus on the DAWES REPARATIONS PACT as follows: "Agreement would never have been reached, without the brusque and brutal intervention of international bankers. They swept statesmen, politicians, jurists, and journalists, all to one side, and issued their orders with the imperiousness of absolute monarchs, who knew that there was no appeal from their ruthless decrees; This settlement, is the joint ukase of King Dollar, and King Sterling."

I hope readers that by now, I have succeeded in dispelling any doubts which might have existed in your minds, concerning the terrible power in our fourth factor **FINANCE**.

So great and terrible is it, that we can say of it as Cassius said of Caesar; "That it doth bestride the narrow world, like a Colossus; and we petty men, walk under its huge legs and peep around, to find ourselves dishonourable graves."

One could cite hundreds of examples to show the tremendous power of Finance—but the ones here quoted are surely sufficient.

One usually associates Great Power with the Mystic things of life; and the great power of Finance is no exception to such association.

It is surrounded by mysticism. The thought and teaching pertaining to it, is so obscure.

As one reads the statements by the late President Wilson, by Lloyd George, and others already quoted, one is astonished at the lack of lucidity pervading them.

The very mention by President Wilson, of a

power somewhere, organized, subtle, watchful, etc. —or the mention by Lloyd George, of a power which could issue orders, with the imperiousness of absolute monarchs—or the mention by G. K. Chesterton, of a Veiled Prophet of Finance, delivering oracles in a language not understood by the people, gives one a strong impression, that even these gentlemen had, on certain occasions, some kind of mystic fear of a great and terrible God of Finance.

Their statements are inexplicable—not so much by what they say, as by what they leave unsaid.

As one reads their accusations, one finds it difficult to understand whether these accusations are directed against some dreadful thing or system, or a group of Financiers, hidden for the greater part of time behind some impenetrable barrier: but who on certain opportune occasions, stalk out and compel governments to obey their imperious commands.

Finance includes all these, as we shall see later.

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CHAPTER 8.

Who Are These Demi-Gods?

"The hand that warned Belshazzar at the feast; derived its horrifying influence from the want of a body."—This chapter introduces just a few Demi-Gods. They have names and carcases.

Before proceeding further, I wish to make clear as to whom I am alluding, when I speak of Financiers or Bankers, in connection with our fourth factor Finance.

I am not referring to Bank Chairmen and Managers with whom the public come in contact; they are only administrative functionaries.

The control of policy lies in the hands of small groups of financier statesmen of various countries, working in alliance with each other. These financier statesmen keep very much in the background.

Unlike Kings and Presidents, Politicians and Comedians, and the socially ambitious of all varieties, they do not seek to have write-ups, or their pictures in the press; they prefer to work in secret, and away from the spotlight.

The Press records no movements for instance of the Zanaroffs, or of the Lazard, the Kahns, the Kuhns, the Rothschilds, of Montague Norman, Benjamin Strong, J. P. Morgan, and M. de Wendel, Otto Niemeyer, Beaumont Pease, Lord Bearstead, Sir Hubert Lawrence, Baron Hailsham, Lord Luke of Paverham, and about twenty others—although upon the activities of these gentlemen, and the decisions they make from time to time, hangs the destinies of Nations, and the happiness or suffering as the case may be, of millions of people.

Sometimes the Financier, or international Banker, although apparently of modest mien, has such a plausible smooth manner of speech, as to even excite Cabinet Ministers of Labour, to speak of him as possessing marked integrity.

The Financiers of Bank Officials, who enjoy the powers and privileges already referred to, move nevertheless in spite of their apparent modesty, in the highest society.

They move about, unassuming perhaps, among Kings and Princes, and Leaders in World Affairs.

These rulers are their servants. The borrower is always the servant to the lender. Right down from

the time when William the third was loaned One million two hundred thousand pounds at eight per cent, by the bank of England, until the present period, when Mr. Thomas handed over British Industry to Mr. Norman, present Governor of the Bank of England; the Bankers have had for their servants, the peoples Leaders and Rulers.

These Bank Officials, these International Financiers, are all powerful.

They are powerful enough to cause war; and they are powerful enough to dictate terms of peace.

They are powerful enough to destroy the happiness of mankind. They are powerful enough under our Present Economic System, to create a condition of a starving world of humanity, in the midst of plenty.

They are powerful enough to create at any time it suits their banking system, a condition of unemployment, with all the suffering and misery, which follows in its trail.



CHAPTER 9.

"Some Conclusions to be Drawn from 'A' This."

A few opinions of the author; but of course "Opinions are not necessarily truths any more than botanical propositions are trees."

Now the question arises: has Finance caused this condition of world wide unemployment, which we have at the present time?

Unless we can show this, no matter how evil or powerful a factor we may prove Finance to be—our case falls if we do not show it, as the factor which banks Industry, and thereby causes this condition which we call unemployment.

We are trying to solve this unemployment problem, and to do this we must first of all be sure of the cause.

I now propose to make a clear concise statement in this connection, and afterwards proceed to back up that statement by facts which are known to all men of average intelligence.

My statement is this:—

Finance is the cause of Unemployment, and In-

cidentally, the Cause of All the Suffering Endured by Men, while engaged in the struggle to get the necessities of life to which they are rightly entitled.

First of all, I claim that Finance is the cause of unemployment, because it has not adapted itself to this New Industrial Age.

Its whole working system is based on scarcity. The return to the Gold Standard since the War, again makes money issued by the banks, proportionate to the amount of gold contained in the vaults, and bearing no fixed proportion to the amount of goods produced and wanted.

The only way by which consumption and production can be linked properly together, is by a system of Finance, which is based on a consideration of the full extent of these two factors, and makes proper provision for one hundred per cent exchange.

When this is done, the Unemployment Problem will be well on the way to being solved: for mark you my readers:—the only thing we are short of today is money.

Tell me! What else is there a scarcity of? I fail to see anything else. Is there a scarcity of manufac-

tured goods? No. The stores and warehouses are filled with them from the ceiling to the floor. Is there a scarcity of wheat, even in this bad year? No. The elevators are filled to overflowing. Is there a scarcity of fish, of minerals, of timber, of coal? This country is wealthy in all these things to an extent which we cannot possibly conceive. Are labourers scarce? No. A thousand times no. Surely the tens of thousands unemployed in every Province throughout this Dominion is sufficient answer to this.

What is scarce then? Just one thing. That product composed of ink and paper. The paper issues of credit finance. Stuff which can be turned off the printing press by millions a day. The Bankers Commodity. This is the only scarce thing on God's earth to-day; and for this reason there is world wide suffering. Let us now consider that time during the Great War, when the scarcity of money was to some extent removed; when the printing presses were put into action to print Treasury Notes: and when considerably more money flowed between consumption and production, than ever before or since.

Previous to this the world's greatest bankers said: "No war could last more than six months, because none of the combating nations, would have enough money left to carry on."

When they expressed this view, they were still thinking of their banking system, and of an Age of Scarcity. Were they right? The War lasted four years. During that period, was there scarcity to the extent we experience it today?

The scarcity evident then was chiefly due to the activities of enemy submarines on the Merchant Service, which of course does not concern our discussion here.

On account of this, the allied nations had to be rationed; but this was the result of war conditions only, which had to be governed by a war measure. Apart from this, England and the Colonies tasted, at all events, of an Age of Plenty.

Munition workers were getting wages they had never previously dreamed of getting. The large armies of unemployed, the result of bad trade in the years of 1913 and 1914, were swallowed up largely by the army, and subsidiary military organizations, which employed them for the purposes of war.

Tinker, tailor, soldier, sailor, rich man, poor man, beggar man, thief; were all taken and given jobs. (The justice or injustice of war does not concern us here.)

Anyway, it was a Great War. As already stated, it was the economic salvation of thousands who were idle when it began.

We returned men who are at present unemployed, and who are suffering in the struggle we are compelled to make, against the keen competition of the times; with the added disadvantages of impaired health; look back to that period, and make comparison with the present.

Then, like the sparrows of the air, and the lilies of the field, we obeyed the injunction of Christ, by taking no thought of the morrow. We had no need to in an economic sense. Ourselves and our families were clothed and fed, and provided for. Perhaps not to the same degree of luxury in some cases, that they had been used to, but there was behind it all, a great sense of security in regard to the supply of these earthly needs.

In spite of wounds, personal grievances of which we had plenty, and the hard uncertain life of the trenches with the lice, and filth, and danger; we were brothers in arms, healthy, and fulfilling a definite purpose. We were employed. I say again; it was a Great War. I have even heard it spoken of over there as "A Lovely War."

Anyway, as we Veterans look back, the comparison we make, can be expressed in these words:—War was Economic Peace; and Peace as we have found it, is Economic War.

As already stated:—during the war the Gold Standard was removed. Enough money or Treasury Notes were printed and circulated, to more nearly equal the amount of goods produced and wanted.

The amount of money printed, was no longer proportionate to the gold reserve.

The powerful enemy Germany, which sought to enslave us, placed us as a nation at once upon our mettle.

We quickly realized our potential power. We realized our enormous wealth and our capacity to produce. In short our age of plenty.

Our rulers financed accordingly, on this National Real Credit.

We partially experienced an Age of Plenty, in spite of the fact, that production during the war, was largely the production of materials which in themselves were waste, and which in their use on the

battlefields of Europe, brought about a condition of wanton waste of life and property.

The issue of Treasury Notes, was made to meet the exigencies of the strenuous times of war, when the nation was fighting for its life.

Bearing in mind then, this method of war financing, and the purpose of destruction for which this financing was made, and at the same time recognizing, to what great extent the unemployment problem was solved during that period, under those strenuous conditions; would it be unreasonable to claim, that a similar method of financing, for the purposes of production for use, and for the development of the Arts and Sciences of Peace, would still further solve the unemployment problem, and that all men would be engaged in the performance of useful tasks, living their lives in a state of economic security, freed from the fear of want and poverty.

Now concerning my statement that Finance has caused our present condition of unemployment, and is therefore the evil factor of Industry.

I have shown, that by the issue of Treasury Notes, the link between Consumption and Production was in such proportion as to create a near solution to the unemployment problem.

We could not expect however, a complete solution to the problem while the war was still on; but on the termination of war conditions, surely for reasons which are obvious we should have had no longer a condition of unemployment.

There are two reasons why unemployment still prevails; both of which are due to Finance.

First.—The borrowing from own deposits of National Real Credit during the war, and, secondly—the return to the Gold Standard.

With regard to the first reason, I have already made mention of the condition of the British People and of British Industry, due to the repayment of this nefarious loan.

The same condition prevails in Canada, and in all the one-time belligerent countries.

Industry and the people are taxed beyond all reason to pay an indebtedness to Finance, which should never have been incurred.

Another result of this indebtedness was this:—that immediately after the war was over, the transactions of borrowing during the war period, placed

the various peoples and their rulers into the hands of Finance; enthroned the Bankers, and gave them control of our National Real Credit, our Industries, and the money of the world.

The Financiers, now masters of the world, had to take means to keep themselves enthroned, and to preserve the Banking System.

No better way to do this they reasoned, than to place the slave shackles of Scarcity, upon the peoples of the world; or in other words, to bring down to the lowest possible point the amount of money needed to link consumption and production.

This was done quietly and quickly by a return to the Gold Standard; whereby once more money was made to circulate only in proportion to the gold deposits in the Bank vaults.

Once again we were placed in that condition of Artificial Scarcity, and we have remained in it ever since.

How often intelligent bright business men of the world pass the remark, "that they don't know what the world is coming to". We ourselves, you and I and all of us, express the same thought often. What

we really mean is this: that we have reached an Age when scarcity is absent for the first time, and we don't in the least know how to adapt ourselves to the new conditions.

H. G. Wells said recently: "We have come to the cross roads and no one knows the way out."

All leaders of thought and world affairs, know where the trouble lies, even though they cannot or would not if they could, point the way out.

"Every ass knoweth his master, and the ox his master's crib."

What we want to-day is a leader, a man big enough, bold enough, clever enough, strong enough, to break the power of High Finance; not to bow to it, pander to it, go cap in hand to it, but destroy it.

WE want the kind of man, who can come up to the ideal which Tennyson had in mind when he wrote:

"Ah God, for a man with a heart, head, hand,
Like some of the simple great ones gone,
For ever and ever by.
One still strong man in a blatant land,
Whatever they call him; what care I,
Aristocrat, Democrat, Autocrat, one,
Who can rule and dare not lie."



CHAPTER 10.

Primary Suggestions for a Remedy The Wooden Images of Party Politics Must Go.

It is very evident readers that the evil of unemployment is caused by modern Finance, and that the solution apparently lies, in getting rid of our Present Financial System, and adopting a system which shall be subordinate to the Government and to the people, and which shall function in linking up in a proper way consumption and production.

To do this is not easy; and the difficulty is enhanced by the strange mental attitude of our rulers towards the problem of unemployment. (I allude to both groups, past and present; Liberal and Conservative; as the latter were mere election time opportunists).

The Speech from the Throne, Feb. 2nd, 1930, was a fair sample of this:—Take for instance the beginning of this speech, which is supposed to give a record of prevailing conditions, and indicate the proposals of the Government.

“It affords me much pleasure, to be able to con-

gratulate you, upon the continued prosperity of the country.

The year 1929, was the most productive year in Canada."

This speech was as much an insult to the intelligence of the people of Canada, as the McKenzie-King speech was last Fall, to the people of Winnipeg.

Indeed one in a replica of the other.—No one denies immense production, but we do deny that it indicates prosperity.

Mr. McKenzie-King and all our representatives at Ottawa know, that there is no prosperity, amongst the masses, and they lie whey they speak of prosperity in connection with this our country.

—(Unfortunately for our late Premier, he admitted the truth in this regard, when it was too late; His callous disregard for truth concerning the Unemployment Problem, was what probably cost him his Premiership.)

There is a great deal of difference, between prosperity, (which can only mean the masses living in a

state of economic security and that statistical substitute for prosperity, described by Mr. McKenzie-King, which only means a linking up of Plenty with Penury.

In this age of science and invention, it could be possible to have ten times the production of last year, and at the same time under our Financial System, have a condition of unemployment, which might take within its ranks, half the population of Canada.

The enormous Production and large export trade, made mention of by McKenzie-King, did not require Man power to any great extent:—To put it simply, it merely meant our factors expressed as follows:—

MONEY (Bankers' Commodity), plus (Machine Power), plus (Very little Man Power), plus (Consumption, chiefly foreign markets).

There can be no prosperity with a condition like this, even though we may have those foreign markets blasted for us by our new Premier, The Hon. R. B. Bennett. What are the proposals then which I have to offer for the immediate solution of the Unemployment Problem.

In view of the apathy on the part of our rulers

towards the Problem of Unemployment, and the way in which they have shoved it out of sight so resolutely, as indicated by their speeches (pre-election of course); my first proposal is that we deal with these gentlemen first.

We cannot do anything in a legal way, until these gentlemen acquiesce to our demands.

We must wake up these representatives of the people, who sit in the counsels of the nation.—They should not be allowed to sit in those places, like wooden images, doing nothing, thinking nothing, concerning this problem.

We must make them understand that there is unemployment; and that whatever prosperity they as individuals are enjoying, we tens of thousands of unemployed veterans, factory and office workers, in this land of plenty, are not prosperous, and are nearer to poverty than we care to admit.

We want therefore no gallery talk and mere promises, such as were made at the last election; offering nothing short of "Kingdom Come." We want a solution; and that solution acted upon.

My second proposal for the solving of the prob-

lem of unemployment is, the abolition of our Present Financial System.

This may appear at first sight somewhat drastic; but as we consider it properly, we shall find that it contains nothing of a revolutionary character, and that it is indeed in keeping with high patriotic ideals.

In one sense it may be drastic; but remember that we are in a State of War. We are in a state of Economic War. A condition quite as serious for most of us, as the Great War.

The purpose of that war was no greater than the solution of this tremendous problem of unemployment.

Primarily, it was caused for the principle of protecting the Neutrality of Belgium; not nearly so important as the protecting of the economic life of our Canadian people.

The Great War was continued to keep safe the Empire from German domination; not nearly so important as the freeing of ourselves from economic bondage.

This is War—against a foe greater than Ger-

many:—a foe which punishes its victims, men, women and children, in a more merciless fashion, than ever Germany punished its prisoners—and a foe which causes more crime, and death, than a dozen Great Wars.

So then, if my proposals appear drastic, let us not forget, that we may have to resort to somewhat ruthless methods, to end the power of so cruel a foe.

It would seem to most men, that the logical solution to the problem of unemployment, is to immediately find work for the unemployed.

Take for instance here in Winnipeg.—We need bridges to cross the two rivers, an auditorium, additional hospital accommodation, and hundreds of streets to be properly paved.

In various parts of the Province good roads are needed, and all kinds of public works in connection with Provincial development.

Then with regard to the larger projects, which come, or should come, under the administration of the Dominion Government;—there is the need for Reforestation, the reclamation of swamp lands, the development of mining, the building of harbours, and the development of water power.

The Municipal, Provincial, and Federal Governing bodies cannot however proceed with the carrying out of these projects to the extent needed, because of the difficulty of Financing.

These different governing bodies, under our present Financial System, cannot Finance without the help of bankers:—In a financial sense, they are no different to a business concern. They buy goods and services, on behalf of the people out of banker's loans, and charge these back to the people in the form of taxation.

As elected representatives of the people, their position in regard to financing the aforementioned projects is made difficult; chiefly for two reasons:—

First:—By borrowing enough to meet their requirements, taxes would have to be increased to such an extent, as to jeopardise their positions as the people's representatives.

Secondly:—The negotiation of loans for these various purposes, must of necessity be made on Bankers' terms, and with conditions governing the loans which must conform with the bankers' policy, and often against the policy of the governing bodies.

Hence the bankers are able to control both the

character and volume of Government expenditure. They are the top dogs:—politically, because political power can only be derived from economic power, and economic power to-day, cannot be activated (as already shown) except by the use of money which the bankers control.

Employment conditions therefore are governed very largely by bankers who practically control the world situation.

Major Douglas, who some time ago, examined our Canadian Banking System, said:—“Just think what it means: Two or three great groups of Bankers and issuing houses controlled by men, in many case alien; international in their interests and definitely anti-public in their policy: not elected, and not subject to dismissal, able to set at naught the plans of government:—producing nothing and yet controlling production.”

During recent years, the parliaments of the Empire have adopted and acquiesced to a new doctrine; which demands that the Bankers’ Credit Policy, must be independent of control, even by the respective Governments.

This new doctrine had we time to examine it,

would we should find, reveals control of everything—Military, Economic, and Political.

What are we going to do about it?—How are we going to solve the problem of unemployment against conditions under which the Parliaments of the Empire have renounced their right to interfere with the Bankers' Credit Policy?

We cannot then change conditions through our parliamentary representatives.

Unemployment conditions, however, have got to be changed, and changed quickly.

I have previously referred to our political leaders and representatives, as not being fully alive to the needs of the situation:—and now I reveal them as powerless.

They are powerless, however, only as members of a Political parliamentary party, not as men.

They are in most cases, splendid intellectual fellows; well equipped for leadership. I appeal to them to use their qualities of leadership and intellect, to recognise the evil of our Financial system, and fight it for they are worth, in the interests of the masses

and towards the solution of the problem of unemployment.

We are up against a great barrier; the artificial barrier of scarcity. A barrier erected by the Bankers, by their reversion to the Gold Standard.

A barrier built to protect the Banking business, and to help the International Banker to retain his power.

On this side the barrier, we have unemployment and poverty in a world of plenty.

With this barrier broken down, we would have a condition of plenty to be enjoyed by all law-abiding citizens.

What are we going about it and how? The only obvious thing to do is to break down the barrier.

In spite of laws passed, giving the bankers control of making and circulating money, we must make them forfeit this unjust privilege.

As a matter of fact we can call the Bankers' bluff.

Within the British Empire the manufacture of money is a prerogative of the crown.

So that if we used means to force bankers to waive this privilege, we should surely be acting in conformity with constitutional law, and our activities in this direction could be legalized by the crown.

The forcing of the bankers to waive this privilege of creating and governing the circulation of money, may mean the taking of very drastic measures; but it has got to be done sooner or later. If eventually why not now?

Unemployment must be removed at all costs.— Nothing of a revolutionary character need occur, if a right understanding of the subject is laid hold of, by our political and religious leaders; and acted upon by them fearlessly and with a determination, to not rest up, until this demon of our civilization is destroyed.

Such leadership, would have the backing of the masses, and would win out against High Finance.

The banking system could then be changed, to conform with the principles I have mentioned, and

would be a national not a private institution; financing on a basis, which would be designed to link up efficiently, Consumption and Production.

In this connection, the brilliant minds of finance, could be employed to aid in the administration of regulating in proper proportion to our needs, the money, not the bankers', but our own national commodity. I am quite aware of the many difficulties, to be encountered, before this can be brought about.

For instance I realize that our system of Party Politics would not be at all compatible, with national finance, any more than it is compatible with nationalization of any kind.

I have already stated that our enemy Finance is strong; and that it can defy governments and electorates.

Through a century it has kept alive the Party System of Politics, and has placed in power, the Party most suited to carry out its purposes.

True!—There is the franchise. Yes!—And a great many other under-currents which drown the purpose for which we think the franchise was given.

Even to-day in England, the Labour Party is in

power, only by permission of High Finance; and no party ever played into its hands more than the present McDonald Government.

To-day, as already stated, Industry there, is in the hands of Finance, lock, stock and barrel, as a result of the Labour Party being in power.

If the Conservative Party had been placed in power at the last election, this would not have occurred so quickly, and the bankers knew it.

A representative of industrial capitalists as a Chancellor of the Exchequer, would have fought for the power of Industry against the power of International Banking.

He may not have won, but Finance would have had to put up a bigger scrap than they needed to with the Labour Government.

I am holding no brief for the Conservative Party. I am only trying to make clear that while I am advocating a National System of Finance, I recognize that such a financial system, can only function properly, under a non-party system of polities.

This of course brings in another big subject. I

shall not continue in this direction further than by stating this:—that our Political Leaders, should represent the people instead of party—and that all measures brought up in parliament, should be discussed and voted upon in the interests of the people, rather than as planks in a party platform.

One only needs to study the history of the British Empire during the last century, and note the wars, the secret compacts between nations, etc., made by various political parties then in power; to see behind it all the Great Power of High Finance.

No party can possibly get into power without money. Bankers control this commodity, and therefore can pretty nearly dictate to the electorate, the party for which they must vote.

Favourable conditions are of course engineered by them, by the publication of insidious propaganda, and a score of subtle schemes, designed to work on the minds of the electorate.

PARTY POLITICS would make a good topic for another publication.

To summarize this chapter however, two things we must have before unemployment can be removed.

A National Banking System, functioning as already indicated; and the abolition of the old world system of party politics. Liberal. Conservative. Labour, etc.

CHAPTER 11.

"An Appeal."

Against such conditions as expressed in the following: "We go to work to get the cash to buy the food to get the strength to go to work."—Upton Sinclair. (If we are lucky enough to get the work).

It is not my purpose to preach blue ruin, but I know, and so does every thinking man with a knowledge of world affairs, and a recognition of the rapid progress which is being made by science and invention, that the need of man-power from now on, will decrease every year.

We have got to act quickly. Right now we should set to work and make our economic system adaptable to this Age of Plenty.

Right now we should make a national sacrifice, to bring about such conditions, as will allow every man woman and child in this Dominion, feel that sense of security, which this age under a proper economic system can give.

When Germany declared war in 1914, men in all walks of life, made tremendous sacrifices, to enlist in the service of our country:

Every pulpit and platform throughout the Dominion, was used for the purpose of awakening the masses to the great need of the time.

The organization work, both in regard to the formation of the fighting units, and the splendid auxiliary movements which attended to the needs of soldiers' dependents, grew in a few months to tremendous proportions.

All true red-blooded Canadians, realized their country's need of their service in one way or another; and that service was given willingly, and in many instances at great sacrifice.

I ask one question; is there less need today, for the same service and sacrifice which was given so freely during those war years?

We are confronted today with economic conditions which in the near future, will prove far more disastrous, to our national life, than if we had been made victims of a German conquest.

Is there less need then today, for the same appeals for service from the platforms and pulpits than there was in 1914?

Is there less need for the same flow of money as

that which in those days flowed so freely as to be the economic salvation of hundreds of thousands of men, and a veritable windfall to the thousands of despicable profiteers? I think not.

Money! the Bankers' commodity:—No; Money the nation's commodity, must be made to flow in even greater volume, than it did during those war years.

If men could be paid for forming fours, and practicing the use of the bayonet, they can now be paid for doing useful work in the carrying out of public projects already referred to.

If men could be paid for carrying out a work of destruction and death against their fellow men, even though it was under the circumstances justifiable; they can be paid for carrying out works of construction which will enrich the country.

I repeat that we war veterans have perhaps more than any others, realized that "Peace" so far, has been but economic war. Was this the peace we fought for?

This "Peace" is not worth the price of sixty thousand Canadian dead who lie in France.

It is not worth the price which tens of thousands of Canadian War Veterans have paid for it, by physical inability to carry on.

I am convinced of this however, that unemployment can be removed just as quickly as the great war was started. It lies with the people and their leaders, political and religious.

In this regard I wish to make an appeal to the Christian Church; to recognize the forces of evil around us to which I have referred, and to line up in the fight against this foe of modern civilization; High Finance.

We have to-day in the Christian Church, one of the strongest organizations in the world.

It possesses hundreds of colleges, thousands of large auditoriums, tens of thousands of highly educated men, who have the ability to speak on the public platform, and give expression to the needs of humanity.

It possesses also a press, which could be made powerful, and used effectively.

Unfortunately the Christian Church is dwindling

down to a social and secular institution; pandering chiefly to the idiosyncrasies of teen age youth, and making a vain attempt to compete with the picture show, the vaudeville stage and the down town gymnasium.

The mission of Jesus Christ, was to lift up down-trodden humanity:—"I came," he said, "that ye might have life, and have it more abundantly."

When the Christian Church with its wonderful organization, gets the true spirit of its founder, the "Carpenter of Nazareth," it will do much towards bringing about conditions compatible with this Age of Plenty in which we now live; and in which we might have life more abundantly.

The teachings of Christ if put into practice, would bring our economic system into line with this age: and the same spirit which drove the money changers from the temple, living in the masses of the people and their leaders to-day, would drive international High Finance from our modern civilization.

CHAPTER 12.

Some More Opinions and Conclusions; with Definite Proposals.

Radical and startling perhaps, but absolutely practical, and if adopted would save the world from Revolution and War.

Our Economic System must be changed, before a solution to the unemployment problem can be brought about.

In making such a change, we must try to avoid bloody revolution.

So far, I have tried to show, that the change must first of all commence, with the Modern Banking and Party Political Systems.—These must go first.

Our old Economic System will prevail so long as these institutions remain. Surely this is obvious.

I am convinced that this very important step towards gaining a new economic system, could be successfully accomplished, without any real danger of bloody revolution. During the stress and strain of war, as already shown, these institutions collapsed, and were replaced with a system akin to the proposals herein indicated.

The Government carried on as a coalition, in which all Parties joined in a common national interest.

Party for the time being was dead. The Banks also, no longer functioned as before; no longer controlling gold they became engaged in issuing treasury notes, as the agents of the Government, or apparently so, and did not wield anything like their normal power, during those war years. All this was accomplished without revolution.—The strain of war forced the change.

The strain of war was an economic condition caused by Germany.

There is war to-day! An economic condition caused by the great gaunt ruthless enemy we name unemployment.

The strain now is great enough to demand an even greater change in the Banking System than that which was made in 1914.

If we do not make the change quickly, it will come by bloody revolution or another world war.

Only after we are rid of Modern Banking and

Party Political Systems shall we be able to formulate plans for the solution of our economic problems, with any hope of carrying them out, without the interference of that great octopus High Finance.

Now, concerning "THE WAY OUT." As one considers the latest proposals of public leaders, one is convinced, that most of them are still lost, and cannot see their way out.

They have still got the scale of scarcity over their eyes, and are unable to see the light beyond.

They are thinking in terms of "Unemployment Insurance," "Finding Work," "Blasting for Foreign Markets," Rationalization of Industry," "Empire Trade," and "Reduction of Wages."

Their proposals are made of course in consideration of our Modern Political and Banking Systems, and without any desire apparently, of getting rid of these institutions. For this reason their proposals, if acted upon, are doomed to failure.

At last some of our economists are beginning to see light.

The Rev. J. A. Ryan, B.B., St. Paul Seminary,

one of the great economists of the United States, writing in the columns of the Electrical Workers' Journal recently, stated:—that he believed the solution would come through shorter hours of labour; and suggested for the present a thirty-five hour week.

"There is not the slightest danger," he says, "that our Industries would fail to produce enough in a thirty-five hour week to provide all the necessary comforts and luxuries, that are required by the American people."

Another economist, Stewart, writing in one of the Scottish papers "Forward":— Suggests in one of his articles in that paper, that the remedy would be to give money to the unemployed, equal to a fair living wage, on conditions that they spend every penny of it, by living up to the amount in a proper way.

"I prophecy," he says, "that by the end of the first year, there would be no unemployment in the country; that their aggregate consumption would be so great, that they would have to be started to work to supply their own demands."

He goes on to say:—"Where is the money to come from? I have never heard that the people who draw interest on war loan investments, ask where the

money comes from. They simply hold out their hands and take it." When the unemployed learn to do the same thing, and to do it effectively through their power at the ballot box, the unemployment problem will be solved. Assuredly the statesmen will not take the initiative in applying this plan. It is too easy.

These two economists, while perhaps far from presenting a solution to the problem, do at any rate show, that the scales of scarcity do not interfere with their vision, or their view of the situation.

They realize to a great extent at all events, the Age of Plenty in which we live.

Stewart's plan may appear on first thought, as foolish and absurd.

He mentions Two Pounds per week as the fair living wage. This would mean for two million unemployed, four million pounds per week or two hundred and eight million pounds per annum.

I have already stated that three hundred million pounds a year is paid by the British people to the Bankers on loans based on their own deposits, by the issue of Treasury Notes.

This alone, MONEY CREATED on the National Real Credit of the British People, and collected by the Bankers, would more than pay up, the amount suggested in the Stewart Scheme.

One is convinced therefore, that there is a great deal worthy of consideration, in the plan of this Socialist economist.

There is much however, which makes both the Ryan and the Stewart schemes undesirable.

With regard to the Ryan plan of a thirty-five hour week; the fact that Industry all over the world is in the hands of the Bankers, would make it impossible to carry out the scheme. This is obvious, when one considers also the rapid progress being made almost daily, in manufacturing methods, and the ease with which under modern methods of Finance, Industries can be quickly changed from one part of the world to another, to suit High Finance:—not the Workers.

The Stewart plan would fail, in that it takes no consideration of age or ability. Under his plan middle aged men with large household expenses, would be working hard perhaps in factories, while young men with no marriage responsibilities, would be living lives of luxury and ease.

The whole scheme would work out so unfairly, as to certainly get and deserve the opposition of the mass of workers.

Whatever plan or scheme or solution, is presented to solve this problem of unemployment, it must be compatible with this Age of Plenty; and it must be based on a sliding scale, to meet either continued progress in production, or set backs due to other causes.

It would be perhaps almost impossible to set forth a perfect plan, to meet the exigencies of time, place and every condition imaginable:

I do not therefore propose to lay down any finely detailed plan, by which all the Industrial and Commercial activities of nations, and ours in particular, should be governed.

I shall merely suggest tentative and also definite proposals, which could be adopted immediately, to relieve the present situation of unemployment, and also take care of our future economic life:—Because in regard to all this, I am looking toward the future as well as in the present.

While I am convinced that no solution to the

problem is worth any consideration, which only applies to immediate needs; I am equally certain also, that any solution presented, which would only apply to the future, would not deserve very much consideration either.

These proposals are secondary of course, because as stated often by way of emphasis:—(not caring about being guilty of reiteration):—without the removal of our faulty factor “High Finance” and its Satellite “Party Politics,” no proposals could possibly be devised by the ingenuity of man, or the divine wisdom of God which would prove workable.

In venturing to suggest these proposals however, I wish to appeal both to the imagination, and the unrestricted reasoning qualities of my readers.

I am looking into the future, to a world far more advanced than the present. In the near future however; because as one looks back only a few years, and notes the rapid strides which have been made;—one is compelled to believe, that five or ten years ahead the world will be an entirely new world to the one we know.

There will be a people needed then, who will be educated to a high standard, in order to be compat-

ible to the conditions which will prevail in that period.

The menial work of the world, is fast becoming the work of the machine.—New great forces, as the result of Engineering, Electrical, Chemical, and Biological research, will bring to humanity new responsibilities.

Men will need to be educated, not only to understand and apply these forces to production, transportation and to the physical necessities of humanity; but to govern them so that they will remain the servants of man, ministering to his needs and to the welfare not the destruction of the human race. Our educational code will need to be revised, to meet our new economic conditions, and a highly scientific age. In addition to the teaching of various sciences and arts, moral ethics will need to be instilled into the hearts and minds of youth, to give them the strength of character and discipline, required to meet the needs of the coming age.

This vision of the future, brings one at once to a realization of the need of the present, and suggests my first proposal: "The Raising of the School Age."

In one of the previous chapters, I stated that men

would need a mental re-birth, before they would be capable of adapting themselves to this Age of Plenty.

I again appeal to the unrestricted, unprejudiced reasoning of my readers.—Now Smile! For my proposal is to raise the school age to twenty years:—and why?—My answer is this:

If the needs of the future will demand an educated people, and the need of the present requires that men now unemployed should have work: surely the only right and logical thing to do, would be to put this proposal into force.

The present period of depression would be greatly benefitted by so doing:—but the greater benefits from this policy, would be derived in the future. The youth of the country therefore, would not be sufferers by changes made in the carrying out of this proposal, but gainers: because the future is theirs.

I have no record of figures showing exactly how many young people under the age of twenty, are engaged in factories, stores, workshops, and offices. Undoubtedly the number is a large proportion of those engaged in the ranks of the various forms of labour.

So great, indeed, that I venture to state, although

statistics are not here available to back up the statement, that enough vacancies would be made by the return of 'teen age youth to schools, as to provide work for most of those now unemployed.

If this proposal was adopted and acted upon, more school buildings, larger and better even than the present ones, would be required all over the country. The work of building these schools, of equipping them, and supplying them with teaching staffs, would without doubt tend to solve the problem of unemployment, by engaging tens of thousands now unemployed.

Again these many thousands now employed would be good customers, and would give impetus to trade, which would improve conditions generally in their respective communities by their purchases.

By the raising of the school age, three classes of people at least would immediately benefit:—

First—Those who would replace youth in the offices and factories, etc.

Second—Those who would be engaged in the building and equipping of the schools, and also as the teaching staffs.

Third—The merchants and store-keepers in almost every community.

I ask; is this proposal worth a trial? The only objection which possibly could be raised, would be a financial one. My immediate answer to this objection is brief:—

I want my readers to think for themselves in connection with this objection, on the lines already indicated in previous chapters.

No difficulty need be experienced in financing because with our Present Private Banking System wiped out, and operating in its place a Nationalized Banking System, financing on the basis of our National Real Credit, we would be in a position of being able to carry out this or any other scheme of a similar nature, being limited only by our capacity to produce by machine and man power, physical and mental.

Seeing that the various proposals which I am going to submit in addition to the one already put forward, depend for their success on the possibility of being properly financed, I shall deal later more fully concerning the financing of them. In the meantime I offer further proposals.

Before I offer my next proposal, I want you readers to be prepared to receive it. Get the idea right, concerning the bounteous age in which we live.

Get your flags ready to wave, and your mouth ready to smile; for here is a proposal which I make in all seriousness in this highly Scientific Machine Age of Plenty.

My second proposal is to make a Producing Class of all those between the ages of twenty and fifty years; and retire all those over that age, on a pension which would allow the full standard of living adopted by the workers.

The proposal must appear to the conservative type of mind as a very extreme one. Even to the Ultra-Radical and Trade Union Type of mind it might be considered as "stepping on the gas" a little heavily.

To all those however who consider the labour life of man too short at thirty years, and especially those who may regard this proposal as foolish and absurd unpractical and extreme; I wish to direct your attention to a decision which was made at the Methodist Conference held at Leeds, Yorkshire, England. At this conference, a motion was passed unanimously

that ministers who had given thirty years' service to the church, should be retired on a sum which in England, equals a living wage.

Now you doubters of the soundness of this proposal get this:—If men of the clerical profession, usually men of high character, of high education, and men of culture, regard thirty years' service as a life's work, in a vocation which is not really arduous; surely it would be reasonable to accept the proposal that thirty years of toil in the factory, the mine, or the office, with the restrictions of time and place, and the attendant ills of modern industry, should be the maximum period of compulsory life labour.

I have already stated (excuse constant reiteration, it is necessary) that any plan or proposal submitted, tentative or definite, must be based on a sliding scale, to meet either continued progress in production, or set backs due to other causes.

This applies especially to this proposal; with regard for instance to the ages stated in it, they are offered as a basis upon which a start could be made.

These ages, as also the length of working day, could be determined by conditions indicating what would be correct or nearly so in this regard. I have

tried to be conservative in this proposal. While suggesting thirty years as the working life of man, I am of the firm belief that the number could be reduced, with the facilities of production which we possess at this time, without any consideration even of the potentialities of the future.

'The hours per day would not stand I think much less than six for many reasons which should be obvious.

It can easily be proved that under this proposal the nation's necessities and luxuries, such as make up the modern high standard of living, could be produced in abundance and distributed to all. Remember in this connection the definition of Industry, which I have given in previous chapters, and realize fully, that the object and purpose of Industry **is not** primarily to find employment for men:—This is incidental, and is becoming less needful every day.

If goods could be produced without men, it would be a prostitution of Industry to revert to some process of production, merely with the object of providing work for men to do.

Under this proposal, including as it does, the elimination of our "Faulty Factor," that great oct-

opus, "Our Modern Banking System," with all its outstretched tenacles of subsidiary financial institutions—Industry would be functioning perfectly.

Men would be working merely to produce what they themselves collectively could purchase, and a surplus which they could trade in a peaceful way with the surplus of other nations. They would not under the proposal be making a struggle for export markets, wherein to get a sale of goods unsaleable at home. they would not be concerned with blasting for foreign markets or ever lastingly talking tariffs;—and they would not be controlled or have their industries strangled by private bankers possessing privileges of owning and controlling credit.

Their object would be to produce for use and not for profit.

Bearing in mind then this Age of Plenty in which we live (I must pound this home) surely it is obvious to the dullest mind, that men working under the condition of this proposal would be living in a state of absolute economic security and freedom, having no need in an economic sense of caring for the morrow.

Security and Freedom—What about our relationships with other nations under this proposal? Some of my readers will ask.

My reply is this.—The bad feeling between nations which often culminates in war, has always been caused by High Finance and commercial greed.

Under this proposal, our relationships with other nations would be peaceful; and the general adaptation of the proposal by the civilized world would mean World Peace.

I can still imagine my "Economical" student reader asking how this whole plan can be financed. How on earth, he wonders, can the pensions under this scheme be paid? How can men be paid high wages for working only six hour days?—Wages high enough to maintain the high standard of living mentioned in the proposal. These questions which such a reader might ask may be considered fair, reasonable questions to ask. I will go further and contend that any plan submitted towards a solution of our present economic evils besides being desirable must also be feasible, workable and obtainable. As already stated in connection with the previous proposal the financial aspect will be dealt with later. In the meantime to use the famous words of a famous British statesman: "Wait and see."

My next proposal is concerned with the men of middle-age, just placed on the retired list. Still

healthy, and apparently strong, many of them feel so fit, they resent the prospect of inactivity.

Under the proposal which I am now going to submit, they need not feel concerned in this regard. They will be privileged to spend quite an active life if they feel so inclined.

My proposal concerning all these in the retired list is based on the special qualifications which usually are attributed to well developed middle-age. I refer especially to the quality of ripe judgment, based on wide and long experience.

Middle age however has often other qualities more developed than those of youth.

It is really more progressive, and more prolific in ideas than early manhood or womanhood.

This has been proven in all ages, right down to the present:

Great Military leaders, great scientists, great preachers, great writers, great lawyers, great parliamentarians and great leaders of all kinds, are and have been always, mostly men and women of middle life.

This then is the proposal:—To use this splendid group to carry on the work for which they are peculiarly fitted:—for the benefit of their country as patriots, and also to their fellowmen, without receiving any remuneration other than their pension.

Out of this group, could be chosen our administrators, judges, aldermen, parliamentary representatives, clergy, etc.

This work would be voluntary, and divided more than at present, so that it would not be arduous.

Others in this group, with no ambition to enter public life, could use their time in such a way as to be profitable to both themselves, and their community, by engaging in many activities to suit their tastes and requirements.

Until comparatively recent times, men often expressed their good citizenship, by holding office as representatives of the people in various forms of government, without accepting any remuneration for their labours.

It was done for the honour of being placed in a position to render public service.

The same spirit would prevail among the retired class under this proposal.

The environment surrounding the lives of these men, freed from the clutches of High Finance, would give them a vision of service in this regard, never yet experienced.

This is no dream.—I have seen men in the trenches, freed for the time being from economic insecurity, and to some extent under the environment of economic freedom, offer not only small service, but service at the risk of life itself:—to help a comrade.

Finally, with regard to this proposal. The gratuitous service, rendered by this retired class, would save the country more millions of dollars per annum than their pensions would come to.

When one thinks of a statement made by a late Premier, that a special conference of Parliament, to discuss the Unemployment Problem would cost Two Million Dollars, and when one considers the enormous salaries paid in all departments of Public Service to mere figureheads, one gets just a slight inkling of the enormous saving which would be made by this proposal being carried out.

When that great Diabolical Figure of Modern

High Finance is removed, and men in this class are enabled, as they will be under this proposal, to take their noses from the grindstone and look up to God's blue sky:—They will get a vision.

A vision of abundant life and service.

I have now suggested three proposals, which jointly, make one definite scheme:—taking care of the economic life of man, from the cradle to the grave.

These suggested proposals however, like any other similar proposals which might be made, designed to raise our standard of living, and to give greater economic security, as feasible and attainable. It might be argued indeed that they are feasible and attainable even under our Private Banking System—with the privileges Bankers possess of extending credit and creating money.

Under this system, however, the Bankers alone decide what schemes shall be carried out and, as already stated, no Government in the British Empire and not even the House of Lords can interfere with the Bankers' Credit Policy.—Even if, to avoid revolution, and thereby protect their interests, or in a mood of good will toward suffering humanity, Bank-

ers extended the Credit Policy to meet such requirements as the aforesaid proposals would need, their help would be undesirable.

The vast amount of money needed, by being borrowed from Bankers, will give them a still greater hold on our Economic Life. By their control of money, they already control our National Life's blood. The life blood of our Industries, the life blood of our Agriculture, the life blood our Trade and Commerce and even although to a less extent perhaps, the life blood of our Religions.

The only way to deal with our Economic Problems of to-day is to make our schemes toward solution, big enough and broad enough to give every man, woman, and child the economic security which is their birthright; and then Finance them only by and through a Nationalized Banking System, as the basis of our National Real Credit. The only debts then which could be possibly made would be to ourselves.

Our National Real Credit in this wonderful Machine Age of Plenty will stand it and give us much more than I have dared to propose.

The reason our Economic Life is bearing down

unusually hard upon us to-day is this:—that for certain reasons, which the Demi-Gods of Banking consider most suitable to themselves, the Banking Policy is to limit tremendously extension of credit. The only good thing about this policy is that it is keeping us from being further indebted to High Finance, and it is teaching the people who is the master. The Policy is, however, being backed by some public men, including our Premier, on grounds more sympathetic to the Bankers than to the people.

In his speech at Regina recently, in answer to a question from the audience, he replied in such a way as to defend, perhaps unintentionally, the credit system of the Banks.

The question put to him was apparently in regard to the Bankers' restricted credit policy;—and in his reply, he gave the same reason which the Bankers usually give to justify themselves when not disposed for reasons of their own, to grant a loan for the financing of matters which do not quite meet their approval.

He said something to this effect:—that the Bankers have only a limited amount of money to dispense; that this money belongs to and has been entrusted to them by the people; that they must in duty to the

best interests of their clients, limit in times like these, extension of credit.

The Bankers, he stated, "only lend the people's money."

Nothing could be further away from the truth; and right here I want my readers "to get an eye full" —so full that the veil of scarcity will be broken and you will get a clear vision of what Banking really is and means, especially in relation to the problem of our discussion.

Get this:—The truth is; that there is no legal limit to the amount of money the Bankers have the privilege and power to loan. They are privileged to create if need be the money they loan, at the time of lending it.

The only limit that there should ever be to the expansion of credit should be governed only by the capacity of the people to produce and consume. In other words, if Industry in its broader meaning, including agriculture as well, is not to be baulked, production and consumption must be linked 100 per cent with Finance.

Mr. Bennett or any other man with plans for

solving the unemployment problem, will always have his plans frustrated by this factor Finance, until the power of the International Banker is broken, our Banks Nationalized, and a Government in power which shall be compatible with Nationalization.

The Nationalization of Banking would not necessitate any more than the taking over the institutions as they at present exist, at a fair valuation, without disturbing the staffs or their operations. Banking is not nearly so complicated a business as it is generally supposed to be, and it certainly is more free from risk than most businesses.

Even during these hard times the banks show enormous profits.

A Banker's business chiefly is to act as an agent to liquify assets, and transfer credits from one party to another on the strength of them.

To make this more clear, and incidentally to show the error of those who think of Banks as only lending the money belonging to their customers; let us take a fair sample of a Banks commercial business.

We will assume a case of a "Desire to Consume" being linked up with "Production" by "Finance."

The assumption I propose to make may be somewhat ludicrous, but it will serve the purpose I have in mind:—

Here in the Province we have a fearful condition of Unemployment, (Only assuming this, bear in mind, because to state it as a fact, one might be accused of preaching "blue ruin" or "Communism" or something like that) and that there is tremendous suffering in all the municipal and rural areas in consequence.

We assume also, that in spite of the Dominion Government's promise last August, to bring in whatever tools, or guns, or whatever things they use to kill Spectres, that these things have not yet arrived; and that the brains of our Provincial Government, spurred on by the necessity of the situation, have at last formulated plans whereby relief may be widely distributed, employment found for all unemployed and everything promising to be Hunki Dori.

To carry their plans out they have put on the market an issue of bonds called "Provincial Unemployment Bonds."—and hope by this method to finance their brain wave, and kill the spectre themselves.

The next day a council meeting is taking place at

the Winniwebb City Hall. As a result of this meeting the Finance Committee, headed by Mayor Webb, is ordered to negotiate a loan of one million dollars with the Bank of Royal Flush, in order that the City of Winniwebb might loan the Brocken Government one million dollars by the purchase of Provincial Unemployment Bonds, and thereby help the unemployment situation in the City and Province.

Now Winniwebb has no money in the Bank. It has indeed very much overdrawn its account; but it has a very energetic and sympathetic mayor and a shrewd finance committee.

The Bank, in spite of its pretentious name, has not got very much money in its vaults; but we should worry about that.

Arriving at the Bank, the Mayor and his colleagues enter the manager's office and make known their requests to this functionary who carries out the policy of the unseen arbiters of Finance. They tell him that they want to invest one million dollars in "Provincial Unemployment Bonds"; as the Winniwebb City Council is desirous of doing what it can to help the Brocken Government to carry out its relief plans.

For this reason they request an additional over-

draft of one million dollars to help them to do this. After a little diplomatic and persuasive reasoning by the Mayor and his associates, the Bank Manager agrees to make a further overdraft of this amount.

Don't forget this is merely assumption). Winniwebb City Treasurer now makes out a cheque on the Bank of Royal Flush for a million dollars payable to the Brocken Government in payment of bonds to that amount. The Government sends Winniwebb a receipt and pays the cheque back to the bank the same day.

The Bank has found no money.

Its vaults are not touched by the transaction. The Brocken Government now orders building supplies, food and clothing, radios, bicycles, cars and cocktails, in fact everything which means relief to the hungry masses, to the extent of one million dollars, from the many supply firms of "Made in Winniwebb" "Board of Trade" calibre.

When these goods are all delivered, the Brocken Government pays out cheques to all these firms to the aggregate amount of one million dollars.

These firms send back receipts, and put their cheques back in the Bank.

The Bank has still found no money..

The entries show that Winniwebb owes the Bank one million dollars; that the Brocken Government has cleared its account; and that the various supply houses have an aggregate of one million dollars surplus in the Bank.

Now let us take a look at the Bank's profit and examine the method by which they pile up profits equalling the wealth of Croesus in even an off year like this:—

The City of Winniwebb has to pay 5 per cent. on that million, but the supply people only receive $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on their surplus.

This profit continues so long as the City of Winniwebb, receiving no payment from the Brocken Government lets that sum remain as a debit against it.

The Bank of Royal Flush therefore takes a gross profit of \$25,000.00 per year on this little transaction.

Readers, let us pray, for a Nationalization of our Banking System, and that our Prime Minister's eyes

be opened to the fact that Banks do not only lend depositors' money.

Finally, and I must really conclude, as to continue further will carry my printing bill beyond what I can afford:—

I wish to point out another possible solution to the unemployment problem. In doing so, I may have to step into the realm of Relativity. I ask of Course, Mr. Einstein's permission to do this and hope he will accept my apologies for stepping in such isolated territory, where none but the professor really feels at home.

I saw some time ago, somewhere, in some magazine, newspaper, or book, I forget exactly, a statement something like this: "Was Mass Production made for Americia or America for Mass Production."

Not thinking very much about this statement at the time, I had almost forgotten it until a few days ago a similar thought came to my mind, by a process of mnemonics perhaps, and it was this:—"Was man made for an Economic System or the Economic System made for man?" With this thought in my mind I found myself elaborating on the relative values of man and the present economic system. It seems to

day that we regard a man as useless, who does not fit in with an economic system, and who cannot earn enough out of it to live and support his family.

Really, you know, it should be the other way round.—We should regard the system as useless, which does not fit human needs and supply them readily to all men.

Let us consider in a little more detail the relative values of men and the economic system; the relative values of different men and the relative values of different systems. If under an Economic System, millions of men are not needed to maintain it, and are therefore useless, only being a burden on those who are needed to maintain it; why should they be allowed to live?

Do they not "encumber the ground"? under a system such as this, it would be reasonable to ask would it not.—Has a man a right to live merely because somebody needs his company?

If under this Economic System these millions of Unemployed are no longer wanted, no longer needed, and never will be because of still more progressive methods of production in the near future; is there any valid reason why they should live?

Eureka! Eureka! The solution to the Unemployment Problem is discovered. Those millions of Unemployed can be drowned or gassed;—and without our International High Financiers needing to take the trouble to make Governments declare war.

Of course there is another way of looking at it. Perhaps the Economic System is all wrong; because after-all, bearing in mind the idea of relative values, are the men the fittest who survive under this system?

For instance—“The Bank Robber”, “The Robber Banker”, “The Stock and Bond Manipulator”, “The Broker Who Corners Wheat”, “The Politician who never did anything more useful than make a Promise”, or the “Chicago Gunman.”—They all can make a good living out of this system. Should they live, while men who fought in France to preserve the “System” and keep it alive, must now perish through ill health and poverty? Or, while men whose years of toil for a mere pittance now ended ingloriously by the machine, are now compelled to seek shelter and beg their sustenance.

It seems as though the relative value of a system as against other systems which exist, or may be brought into being, must be based on the type of men who can live under it; and the number of human be-

ings it can support. Our present Economic System measured on this basis does not seem to be worth very much. Surely a system should be made for man, and not man for the system.

This system, however, does not even seem to be able to absorb all the men which were made for it.

By all the mathematical and logical laws of reasoning which we bring to bear upon this sacred isolated ground of relativity, we must conclude that the Great Designer of the Universe who created man, meant that the system should be made for man and to minister to his needs.

Let us fall in with God's great universal law and alter the Economic System.

Unemployment and the Way Out?

Never! Until that is done!